

USFS – Sierra National Forest

Comments submitted by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual grant applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the applicant within the competitive grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific applicant does not ensure successful results for the applicant within the competitive grant process or a commitment of funding.

All final applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for law enforcement projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

Failure by Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary application shall be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant's application.

If multiple proposed projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed projects requesting grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or equipment requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the OHMVR Division Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

For proposed projects requesting grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow "green sticker" off-highway vehicles are allowed to receive grant funding. Additionally, Applicants may not charge a use fee for vehicles and/or Equipment purchased with OHV Trust Funds, except for fuel and minor maintenance cost.

Applicants are reminded that no grant funds and/or match can be expended on project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

General Evaluation Criteria

- #1a-c – Applicant must verify that the information provided is the most recent available. Applicant must use the data as listed on that document.
- #2 – #5, Applicant must verify response by final submission.
- #7b – Narrative does not support selection. It is not clear that a majority of the OHV areas are being patrolled on a daily basis.
- #7c – Narrative does not support the selection. "Education programs, maps". Applicant must verify that the maps address OHV trespass and respect for private property.
- #9a – Narrative does not support the development of a systematic methodology for evaluating soil conditions of its OHV Opportunities.

- #10 – Narrative does not support the selection. Applicant must provide further detail.
- #11a – It is unclear if free literature is provided to visitors describing safe and responsible OHV recreational practices.
- #11b – Narrative does not support the selection. Applicant must identify the specific, Applicant and/or Land Manager initiated, educational events to support selection.
- #13 – Applicant must verify response by final submission.

Ground Operations	G17-02-17-G01
Project Description	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers and California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC), Stewards of Sierra have also applied for Ground Operation Projects in the Sierra National Forest. Applicant needs to identify specific areas where Project activities will be performed and ensure there is no duplication of services in the Project Description. • A. Patrol is a law enforcement activity, thus Applicant must clarify the meaning of patrol in this Project. 	
Project Cost Estimate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Note:</i> Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers and California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC), Stewards of Sierra have also applied for Ground Operation Projects in the Sierra National Forest. If awarded, USFS Sierra National Forest cannot donate as match any item purchased with grant funds to the Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers or California Trail Users Coalition. • Patrol is a law enforcement activity, thus Applicant must clarify the meaning of patrol in this Project. • Staff – “Forest Biologist” line-item description indicates the position provides match; however, no match is budgeted. Applicant must clarify. • Staff – “Volunteer Support”, Applicant must clarify if any volunteer hours are from either Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers or California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC), Stewards of Sierra National Forest. If so, Applicant must remove the hours, as both clubs have applied for their own Ground Operations Grant in the Sierra National Forest. • Contracts – “Forest Toilet Pumping” cost has increased compared to prior year’s application. Applicant must clarify the price increase. • Materials/Supplies – Line items #1, #2, #5, and #6, Applicant must provide how costs were determined. • Materials/Supplies – “Volunteer Supplies” and “BL Chainsaw Maintenance Supplies” chain saws appear duplicative. Applicant must provide clarifying details. • Materials/Supplies – “BL UTV/ATV Supplies” and “BL Hand/Power Tools” costs have increased significantly compared to prior year’s application. Applicant must clarify the price increase. 	

- Materials/Supplies and Equipment Use – “HS OHV/OSV Tools for Equipment Repair” and “HS Chainsaw Maintenance” appear duplicative. Applicant must provide clarifying details for each explaining why both are needed or adjust accordingly.
- Equipment Use Expenses – “HS Hand Tool Repair” is not an Equipment Use expense. Applicant must move to Materials/Supplies.
- Equipment Use – “HS Other Vehicle Support” Applicant must provide more details on how cost was determined and explain what is meant by “non-Fleet” vehicle.
- Equipment Use – HS Vehicle Upgrades (ATVs, RZR, and Jeep)” This line item reflects the same request from Prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide clarification as to why these items are being requested again. Also, Applicant must revise by budgeting each line item separately and provide more details on proposed purchases. Note that items over \$1,000 are considered equipment purchases vs. vehicle use.
- Equipment Use Expenses – “HS OSV Vehicle Support (Fleet)” Applicant must provide more details on how costs were determined, e.g. does this include an annual maintenance.
- Equipment Use Expenses - “HS OSV Vehicle Support (non Fleet)” Applicant must provide more details on how cost was determined and explain what is meant by “non-Fleet” (e.g. how many vehicles, the types, is there a yearly service involved, etc).
- Equipment Use - #14, #15, #17, and #18, Applicant must provide more details for how costs were determined and revise accordingly. E.g. what’s the estimated time on the Project, Use Fee, or mileage? Also, for #17, provide additional details for the OSV Fleet, e.g. the types of vehicles. Further separate the line items if necessary due to different vehicle type.
- Equipment Use – “HS OSV Vehicle Upgrades” This line item reflects the same request from Prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide clarification as to why these items are being requested again. Also, Applicant must revise by budgeting each line item separately and provide more details on proposed purchases. Note that items over \$1,000 are considered equipment purchases vs. vehicle use.

Evaluation Criteria

- #6 – Narrative does not support “Providing an alternative to wet crossings...”, “protecting special-status species”, “Re-routing trails,” or “Providing sanitary facilities.” Applicant must provide additional details/examples explaining how selections would be accomplished, including if applicant maintains sanitary facilities. The “...wet crossing...” and “Re-routes...” selections are for items being created vs. maintained.
- #7 – Project Cost Estimate does not affirm “Paper used for trail maps...”

Education and Safety	G17-02-17-S01
Project Description	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A – Applicant must clarify and clearly state the scope of the project and its Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Nexus. • A – Applicant must confirm all education methods are focused towards OHV users. • A and B – Enforcement of fire restriction are not an eligible cost under an Education and Safety grant. Applicant must remove language from the Project Description and adjust Project Cost Estimate. • A and D – Applicant must clarify what OHV Education and Safety information will be provided in educational literature / handouts and how it relates to the scope of the project. • B – Applicant must clarify how maps relate to the scope of the project. • B – Vehicle compliance checks and checking for spark arresters are not an eligible cost under an Education and Safety grant. Applicant must remove language from the Project Description and adjust Project Cost Estimate • B, C, D, and E – Installing and monitoring directional signs and trail markers are not an eligible cost under an Education and Safety grant. Applicant must remove language from the Project Description and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly. • B and C – Applicant must clarify what the message is for the signage that would be installed. • E – Applicant must clarify and provide additional information what the OHV nexus is for providing education materials about fire safety, fire information, and fire regulations at dispersed camping sites and information kiosk. 	
Project Cost Estimate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff – All Staff line items, Applicant must budget the Unit of Measurement by hour vs. by day and provide additional information of what duties each staff line item will perform. • Material / Supplies – “Screen Monitors”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly. • Material / Supplies – “Folding Chairs”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly. • Material / Supplies – “Folding Tables”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly. • Material / Supplies – “Education public handout items”, giveaways considered an indirect cost. Applicant must move all giveaway items to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly. In addition, Applicant must clarify what the educational message is on Educational public handout items (i.e. pamphlets, brochures, training books) and provide a breakdown for how the total cost for this line item was determined. 	

- Material / Supplies – “Smokey Bear costume”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Material / Supplies – “Paper/Aluminum/Plastic/Wood/Metal signs”, Applicant must clarify what the message is for the signage that would be installed. In addition, Applicant must provide additional information how cost was determined.
- Material / Supplies – “Wireless mouse and keyboard”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Material / Supplies – “Woodsy Owl Costume”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Material / Supplies – “Locking storage cabinets”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Material / Supplies – “Chainsaw scabbard”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Material / Supplies – “Propane Brander”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Material / Supplies – “Trail Camera”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Material / Supplies – “Canopy with agency and logo”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Material / Supplies – “Signs and Information boards”, Applicant must provide additional information of what the educational message will be on the signs/information boards and what is the OHV nexus.
- Equipment Use Expense – “Chainsaw, generator, and Polesaw”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Equipment Use Expense – “Vehicle Use mileage”, Applicant must clarify what “patrolling” means for the Applicant. Patrolling is considered a law enforcement activity and is not eligible in an Education and Safety project.
- Equipment Purchase – “Alert-O-Lite Message Board”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Equipment Purchase – “Generator”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Equipment Purchase – “Stihl MS 461 Chainsaw”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Equipment Purchase – “Enclosed Trailer”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Other – “Earth Auger” and “Post Hole digger”, items appear duplicative. Applicant must provide clarifying details for each explaining why both are needed.

- Other – “Pole Saw”, is an ineligible expense because it does not relate to the scope of the project. Applicant must remove line item.
- Other – “Outdoor worklight”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Other – “Online Survey”, is only eligible as an indirect cost. Applicant must move line item to the Indirect Category and adjust Project Cost Estimate accordingly.

Evaluation Criteria

- #2 – Applicant is not a “First time Applicants and past Applicants...” because the Applicant is a current Grantee with projects that have reached the end of the project performance period within the last two years.
- #4 – Narrative does not support the response. Applicant must list partners separately and further define how each partner is going to participate in this project.
- #5 – Project Description does not support selections. Applicant does not state in the application what types of OHV recreation the project will address. Applicant must provide additional details to substantiate selections in the Project Description.
- #6 – Narrative does not support the “...publicly noticed meetings...” selection. Applicant must provide how the public was notified, location of the meeting, and did the Applicant initiate the meeting.
- #6 – Narrative does not support the “...meetings with multiple distinct stakeholders...” selection. Applicant must explain how they are stakeholders to the project and provide the location of the meeting.
- #7 – Narrative does not support the selections in a clear manner. Applicant must provide clearly identifiable and/or measure elements to substantiate selections.
- #8 – Narrative does not support the selections. Applicant must clarify how the methods of education relate to the scope of the project.
- #9 – Narrative does not support selection. Applicant needs to update response with information in evaluation criteria #8.
- #10 – Narrative does support the selection. Applicant needs to calculate the average time exposed to message for all education methods.
- #11 – Narrative does not support selection. Applicant must clarify if the project will provide ATV Safety Institute and/or Motorcycle Safety Foundation training as part of the project.